

Message Text

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45

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 AID-05 IGA-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01 CIEP-02 COME-00 TRSE-00

XMB-04 OPIC-06 SAM-01 /095 W
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O R 242020Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5286

INFO AMCONSUL TORONTO UNN

UNCLAS OTTAWA 4167

EO 11652 NA

TAGS ETRD ESTC CU CA

SUBJ CANADIAN OFFICE FURNITURE FOR CUBA

1. WE UNDERSTAND, FROM RELIABLE SOURCE WHO ATTENDED INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE MINISTER GILLESPIE'S DECEMBER 24 NEWS CONFERENCE ON SUBJECT MATTER, THAT GILLESPIE WAS RELATIVELY MILD AND RESTRAINED. HE STATED THAT IF LITTON HAD NOT BROACHED THE SUBJECT (IN WASHINGTON) NOTHING WOULD HAVE HAPPENED. HOWEVER, SITUATION AS IT HAS DEVELOPED WAS UNACCEPTABLE, AND HE REITERATED NEED TO ENACT THE COMPETITION BILL (C-2) AND CANADA CORPORATIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL (C-29) WHICH RESPECTIVELY, WOULD MAKE IT ILLEGAL FOR CANADIAN COMPANIES TO BE GUIDED BY THE LEGISLATION AND POLICIES OF ANOTHER COUNTRY, AND REQUIRE THAT MAJORITY OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FEDERALLY CHARTERED COMPANY IN CANADA BE CANADIAN.

2. CBC 1 P.M. NEWS BROADCAST REPORTED GILLESPIE PRESS CONFERENCE WITH DIFFERENT AND STRONGER EMPHASIS. QUOTED GILLESPIE AS SAYING STIFF NOTE
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WOULD BE DELIVERED IN WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON

ALTHOUGH PART PLAYED BY USG IN SITUATION WAS NOT
YET CLEAR. HOWEVER, ANY ATTEMPT TO DICTATE TERMS
OF CANADIAN TRADE WITH CUBA REPRESENTED "INTOLERABLE
INTERFERENCE" AND WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO GOC. IN CBC'S
VERSION GILLESPIE ALSO URGED COLE'S US DIRECTORS
TO RESIGN AND BE REPLACED BY CANADIANS SO THAT US
DIRECTORS WOULD NOT BE PUT IN POSITION OF VIOLATING
US LAW AND THE MATTER MIGHT THUS BE "RESOLVED" IN
THE MANNER OF THE MLW-WORTHINGTON (LOCOMOTIVES) CASE.
PORTER

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NNN

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